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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Korea

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SUBJECT Collection of Taxes in Sonch'on-gun

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SUPPLEMENT TO
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1. According to Decision No. 131 of the executive committee of the Sonch'on-gun (124-53, 39-46) (XE 6103) people's committee, date 14 May 1951, the inspection report of the finance section on the collection of taxes in Sonch'on-gun found that propaganda and mass-agitation had been carried out adequately, and that, as a result of the competition between villages, taxes for the first quarter of 1951 were paid up by the end of March. The committee noted, however, that taxes had been assessed unfairly in many cases, and that the organization of the collection in almost every village had been poor. Because of these defects, delinquent taxes at the end of 1950 in Sonch'on-gun had totalled 2,223,188 North Korean won on businesses, and 183,681.60 won on casual income. These had been reduced or remitted by March 1951 to show a final loss in the first category of 11,929 won and in the second of 2,465 won, because of the absence of the taxpayers or a lack of knowledge of their whereabouts.
2. To remedy these defects in the future, the chiefs of the finance and cultural propaganda sections of the People's Committee were urged to open political and practical courses of instruction for raising the quality of the workers in the financial field and increasing their sense of responsibility, to increase through propaganda efforts, the proportion of the population which registered and paid taxes spontaneously, and to expose tax-evaders to public notice. The financial section chief was directed to award victory flags to those districts which distinguished themselves in this work.

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